

THE HOME, ITS PROBLEMS, AND ITS INTERESTS



NOVEL CLOTH GOWN.

A gown of this sort is ideal for wear under a fur coat. The front of bodice and sleeves have a clever arrangement of strapping and the blouse front is of cream crepe de chine. The color of material should harmonize with the type of coat. As will be noticed, cut of gown is on princess lines.

Duke Who Led the "Simple Life"

The great Duke of Wellington seems to have been the oldest exponent of the simple life. His own room was plainness and simplicity itself.

He always slept on a small camp bed, and Lord Ellesmere, in his reminiscences, tells us that he was temperate and careless in his diet, stating that he believed his good health was due to the three years he spent under canvas in India, when he ate little but rice and drank scarcely any wine.

He continued to eat rice to the day of his death. He ate it with meat, and almost everything, and his intimate friends took care always to place a dish of rice on the table when he dined with them, says Home Chat.

He was the first inventor of the mixture of ale and soda water, but was quite innocent of any gastronomic fancies, scarcely knew one wine from another, and could not discern bad butter from good. His indifference in the matter of food was proverbial, a contrast, says Lady Violet Greville in the Graphic, to the present day, when diet forms one of the principal subjects of conversation.

End of His Romance

"That settles me," said the street car conductor, as he returned to the rear platform after having made his collection of fares.

"Anything wrong?" was asked. "I should remark! There was an inspector looking through the front door at me while I was collecting fares, and there are two spotters on the car beside."

"But you are an honest man." "Certainly, but that has nothing to do with it. The girl I love is there. I had to hold out my paw for her nickel as well as the rest. I have passed her free a score of times, but this time I couldn't. This evening, when I dined at the house as usual I shall find it in darkness, and as I ring away at the bell a head will be thrust in a chamber window and a voice will call out: 'Go away! We have no umbrellas to mend here!'"—Chicago News.

CARRIER PIGEONS AID PHYSICIAN

Carrier pigeons as aids to a physician are reported from the North of Scotland. The doctor has a scattered practice, and when on long rounds he takes several pigeons with him. If one of his patients needs medicine immediately, he writes out a prescription, and by means of the bird, forwards it to his surgery. Here an assistant gets the message, prepares the prescription, and dispatches the medicine. If after visiting a patient the doctor thinks he will be required later in the day he simply leaves a pigeon, with which he can be called, if necessary.

BLUSHES MADE TO ORDER.

A dermatologist has solved the mystery of converting a faded society woman into a study in pink and white. The beauty doctor has already made several successful experiments with his fountain of youth. He simply tattoos a blush on the cheeks without injury to the flesh or skin. He declares the process does not cause pain—not even a wrince—because the needle only enters the skin one-sixteenth of an inch. He uses vegetable coloring to produce the schoolgirl blush. This is injected under the skin. The fluid is said to be quite harmless, and really possesses antiseptic properties. Two sittings are necessary for a complete operation, and the effect for a few days is not pretty. The complexion changes from pink to red and finally to a delicate pink.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

GIRLS WINNING THE PRIZES.

It is the turn of the girl to prize—in these "suffragette" days the verb is used advisedly. Statistics of the school of America and prize awards of the Royal Academy in London show that the boys as students. Petticoat painters and modelers nearly monopolize the honors of the Royal academy schools this year. Taken in conjunction with the results of investigations in this country, the award of these prizes furnishes a suggestive comparison. Statistics gathered in various sections of the United States by the Bureau of Education at Washington showed that girls excelled generally in ability as students, in esthetic taste, and in color discrimination.—New York Mail.

JOYOUS.

Visitor (to artist's young wife)—What ever were you two laughing over so just now? Wife—Oh, it was such fun! My husband painted and I cooked, and then we both guessed what the things were meant for.—Eligende Blacetter.

Varnish the Soles of Your Shoes in the Winter Season

Much of the sickness arising from damp, cold feet at this season of the year can be avoided and the family shoe bills also much reduced if mothers will take the time and trouble to see that the soles of the children's shoes are varnished once a week.

The expense involved is so slight and the advantages so manifold and manifest that the experiment is well worth trying. It makes the shoe soles stiffer, nearly double the wear and makes them impervious to water.

Copal varnish is the proper kind to use. Varnish made of gum sheilla will not do, as it dries brittle and hard and will break the leather. A pint of copal varnish, into which has been mixed about a gill of the best linseed oil, will suffice to keep a family's shoe sole in order for a whole winter. The entire expense should not be above 25 or 40 cents. Any sort of brush will serve to apply the varnish, although a regular varnish brush is the best. It is best not to have the varnish touch

the uppers, as the effect of repeated applications would serve to make them stiff and brittle.

The soles should be varnished once a week. A good plan is to do it at night, in order that the varnish may have a chance to soak in and dry before morning, otherwise it may make shoe "trackers" and spoil the carpets or floor.

If the uppers are to be waterproofed it is best to make a dubbing of paraffine and turpentine; to do this, melt the paraffine in a cup set in boiling water and stir in as much turpentine as there is melted paraffine; add a little lamp black to color, and use when cold. This makes a fine dubbing for filling in the edges of boots and shoes where the sole is joined to the upper, and for rubbing into the upper leather, which should be wiped thoroughly clean and dry before applying and afterward rubbed to a polish with a soft cloth. This is a better waterproof polish than any sold in the stores. A coating of ordinary vasoline makes a good waterproof dressing to rub on shoe uppers in an emergency before going out in wet weather; but it will rub grease on to skirt or trouser edges unless very carefully rubbed in and wiped dry.

FANCY BUTTONS.

Black passementeries are legion this season, and they are of rare loveliness. The newest styles have much heavier braids than last year, of more open and larger designs, generally one-sided, and a distinct right and left.

This black silk passementerie is in great favor for jackets, cloth gowns, and evening coats.

The soutache braid is often combined with cloth, taffeta, or both, in the most ornate designs, and the ornaments being large, but two or three are used. Extremely effective and absolutely new is a network of silk and jet, and with little woven braid edges, beneath a heavy silk braid dotted with buttons and edged with pendant petals of taffeta.

Then there are buttons like great pearl and diamond brooches, set in gold; stripe and heraldic designs on deep-colored backgrounds, surrounded with rhinestones; silver and rhinestones in Greek crosses; tourmaline and Montana sapphire and rhinestones; very tiny rhinestone clusters about as big as the head of a large white pin, which are used by the many dozens; in fact, rhinestones in every conceivable shape and variety.

The heavy pearl trimming always more or less used on wedding gowns is seen in a pleasing variation this season upon a lilted background and fringes of chenille, with bow knots and dangers of crystal beads and pearls.

An entire row on a low-neck gown could be trimmed with one section of a lovely floral wreath of raised pink roses and leaves of padded taffeta covered with tinsel, the whole connected with tiny garlands and small figures in gold.

Vestings are as popular as ever, and even more beautiful, as they are seen with wreaths of delicate flowers and gay foliage, gold dots and much gilt couching, all brought out by occasional touches of black. These vestings are shown in most of the prevailing shades.

Young, But Wise

A little girl of four was spreading butter on a cracker on the luncheon cloth when her grandfather—at whose table she was—remonstrated with her, telling her that was not the proper place to do it. She never lifted her eyes, but went calmly on with the cracker, and when it was finished and she took up the cracker to eat she said quietly to nobody in particular, "Men don't always know what's best."

DELICIOUS CURRIES.

Curried Chicken With Spanish Peppers.

Cut a chicken into small, neat pieces, and cook till tender in water well flavored with herbs, and seasoned with salt and pepper. When done, take out the chicken, drain and wipe it dry. Fry till brown in butter, then in the frying pan put a little of the strained liquor in which it was boiled. Thicken this with flour, add curry powder and some canned pimientos, chopped to fine bits.

Medallion de Volaille a la Bercy.

Take small squab chickens and bone them so as to retain the shape. This medallion is sometimes made heart shaped, and stuffed being used to fill. Place the boned and stuffed chicken in the copper, salt and spice the pan, and use good butter. Slowly sauté the squab. When done set aside and place them with poultry extract. Coat down with a pint of good claret, and when well coated down, add a little of the strained liquor in which it was boiled. Thicken through a fine cloth.

Curried Fowl and Fried Rice.

Boil a fowl until tender, and dissect into pieces no larger than the thumb. Cut up three medium-sized onions and fry in four ounces of butter, to a pale-brown. Transfer this to a pot, adding one quart of unsweetened stewed apple, one teaspoonful of salt, the juice of half a lemon, a dash of cayenne pepper, one level tablespoonful of curry powder, and the cut-up chicken. Simmer slowly over a moderate fire for at least a half-hour. Cut a pound of cold boiled rice into slices one by two inches in size, and fry to a golden-brown. Arrange the rice around the edge of deep water, and pour the curried fowl in the center. In place of fowl, and cold meat, fish or crustaceans may be employed. The fried rice-cakes may be replaced by the boiled rice, or by boiled and mashed potatoes, yam, or sweet potato.

Too Methodical

"As for me," said Aunt Clarissa, "I haven't any use for a woman that takes three or four handkerchiefs with her when she goes to see one of these heart interest plays. She's too businesslike and calculating to be the genuine thing."—Chicago Tribune.

Its Source

"How do you suppose the report ever started that you had an execution in your house?" "I don't know, unless it started from the fact that we were hanging some wall paper."—Baltimore American.



LITTLE GIRL'S COAT.

The little coat here pictured was of Alice blue cloth, with velvet collar and cuffs to match. The circular cape over the shoulders was cut in one with the front panel of the coat. The cloth was laid in small box plaits on each side of the front and in the middle of the back. The gaiters worn were made of the same cloth as the coat, and the hat was of felt, trimmed with a feather pom-pom and a band of the velvet.

Powder Habit Among Men.

"In my young days," said an old gentleman from Washington square, "it was considered effeminate for a man to use face powder. The only kind of powder we used was that we put in our pockets. But nowadays it's nothing to see a young fellow emerging from a barber shop as pink and white as a rose. In fact, some young men, who haven't wives from whom to steal it, keep a box of it on their dressing table—soft, white, flowery, sweet smelling stuff—to use after shaving. When I was young, a scrape in soap and cold water, with a stinging application of bay rum afterward, was considered luxurious and dandified enough, but now an average barber insists on giving you a massage with your shave, and makes you as velvety and lovely as a sixteen-year-old school-girl. And that isn't all. I see in the department stores that they are selling huge French powder puffs, the size of a plate, with which to fluff your body all over with dainty talcum after a bath. I would have thought those were for the ladies, and would have turned my face discreetly the other way, if I hadn't seen two husky chaps investing in them."—New York Press.

No Chance to Grow.

Mrs. Newwood—Dear me, these eggs are very small. Grocer—They are indeed, mum, and I'm sure I don't know why. Mrs. Newwood—Oh, I dare say it's because you take them out of the nest too soon.

Take a Sun Bath.

Some one once called the sun God's antiseptic and sterilizer, and certain it is that not half the people on the earth realize how large a part sunshine can play in cleansing, purifying and making whole.

No one can overestimate the value of a sun bath, and each year you see an increased number of children, wrapped up from the cold and comfortably tucked into the perambulators, on the sunny end of the piazza, getting the benefit of this greatest of nature's tonics.

Sun baths that are taken as a remedy for rheumatism, or to ward against sleeplessness, have better effect if they are followed by a warm sponge, they are taken for any skin disease and in such troubles they are exceedingly valuable, they should be followed by a warm bath.

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